

COMMITTEE: Housing Poverty Committee

MEETING DATE: December 30, 2008

PERSON RESIDING: Chris McCarthy - NAHFH

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Fredekka Maxwell -
Paul Johnson – The Housing Fund
Lisa Gallon – Metro Action Commission
Kay Bowers – New Level CDC
Bernice Spann - NAHFH

MEETING PURPOSE: Choose two actions for the committee to focus on.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Discussion: The members in attendance agreed to focus on the following actions:

Action (2) Create a Repository of Information that Identifies Housing Service Providers and Education Options.

- Lisa and Bernice – the attached Davidson County Affordable Housing spreadsheet to be completed by February 15:
 - Call and verify that each agency or individual listed on the spreadsheet is still providing the housing and their capacity.
 - Classify by group home, permanent housing, single housing, Section 8, affordable rentals and etc.
 - Set up a process to update this information quarterly.

Action (4) Create a Measurement System that Tracks and Maps Demand, Supply and Where \$ Go.

- Establish a vision statement and organization structure through collaborations with The Housing Fund and Vanderbilt University that would be responsible for identification of demand and supply of affordable housing alternatives and would measure how Nashville is meeting this need. Consistent and reliable information that measures the need and our ability to meet this need for housing in our city is critical to selecting the strategic goals to identify gaps in services and to prevent future economic crises impacting our citizens. This entity would be housed at The Housing Fund and called the Research and Policy Center.
- The entity would be developed by commission or ordinance with Metro Council and Mayor's office Support
- The Research and Policy Center would be the thermometer or measurer and report as to the state of housing on an annual basis in May to the Metro Council and Mayor's Office. Additionally, they would report to the Chamber and non-profits this same information.
- The consistent measurement of housing state would help our city monitor outcomes and progress and would help Metro develop budgetary allocations for housing initiatives as our economy and demographic environment changes.
- The whole intent is not to create public policy but to drive public policy with accurate data and measurable results.
- This measurement would encompass all aspects of housing including: transitional, rental, condominiums, single family, multi-family, public housing, foreclosure measurement, and market rate housing

- Nashville needs an independent research group that is separate from government sources.
 - We could obtain data from MDHA & THDA.
- The good thing about the research arm is:
 - It can assist metro council in making decisions.
 - Gives a mechanism to plan long range and know what's going on.
 - We will be using resources we already have.
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- The Research and Policy Center
 - The Housing Fund has committed to getting the structure together in May 2009.
 - Establish partnerships and Research and Policy Center entity – Mar 2009
 - Assess the current environment by Mar 2009
 - Establish initial funding stream for Research and Policy Center – Apr 2009
 - Determine the impact that the current environment is having on housing – Apr 2009
 - Determine where the current allocations of federal and local public funding is going – May 2009
 - The Reporting Model development – May 2009
 - We can model the center after The Family Housing Fund in Minnesota get a lot of its support from foundations.
- Benefits of the Research and Policy center:
 - Study the housing issues.
 - Educate the community in decision making.
 - Influence policy development.
 - Beneficial to tax payers because they would know where their dollars are going.
- Paul Johnson - The Housing Fund is willing to be the arm of the Research and Policy Center and prepare something to present in May. Currently putting together a fact sheet that would talk about how we would create the policy center

Actions Items:

- Chris - to find where housing dollars from local and federal funding sources into Nashville by May.

Next meeting:

January 30, @ 3:30 at Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity